

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-13 OMB-01 /080 W
-----091936Z 113225 /44

P R 091822Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5487
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 02484

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GW, WB, UR, UK, FR, US
SUBJECT: SOVIET PROTESTS ON GENSCHER AND
BUBACK

REFS: (A) USBER 386; (B) USBER 350; (C) USBER 247

SUMMARY: FRG HAS INFORMED ALLIES IN BONN GROUP THAT,
FACED WITH SEVERAL BUNDESTAG QUESTIONS, GOVERNMENT
MUST CONFIRM ON FEBRUARY 10 EXISTENCE OF SOVIET
PROTESTS TO ALLIES ON RECENT GENSCHER VISITS TO
BERLIN AND ACTIVITIES OF FEDERAL PROSECUTOR IN LORENZ
CASE. ALLIED EMBASSIES HERE AND MISSIONS IN
BERLIN WILL NOW MODIFY PRESS LINE ON BOTH PROTESTS FROM
NO COMMENT TO BRIEF CONFIRMATION, IF FACED WITH RENEWED
PRESS INQUIRY. END SUMMARY.

1. IN FEBRUARY 7 BONN GROUP MEETING, FRG REP (VON
ARNIM) INFORMED ALLIED REPS THAT CDU/CSU DEPUTIES IN
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THE BUNDESTAG HAVE PUT DOWN SEVERAL PARLIAMENTARY
QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SOVIET PROTESTS TO ALLIES OVER
FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S RECENT VISITS TO BERLIN
(REF C AND FEDERAL PROSECUTOR BUBACK (REF B). IN
PARTICULAR:

CDU/CSU DEPUTIES GIERENSTIN, REDDEMANN, AND

HOESL HAVE ASKED WHETHER IT IS CORRECT THAT THE SOVIETS HAD PROTESTED TO THE ALLIES OVER GENSCHER'S VISITS TO BERLIN WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD AND HAD DESCRIBED THE VISITS AS VIOLATIONS OF THE QA.

GIERENSTEIN AND REDDEMANN HAVE ALSO ASKED WHETHER THE SOVIETS HAD PROTESTED TO THE ALLIES CONCERNING THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE LORENZ KIDNAPPING BY FEDERAL PROSECUTOR BUBACK.

2. VON ARNIM NOTED THAT THE QUESTIONS HAD TO BE ANSWERED ON THE AFTERNOON OF THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, AND ASKED FOR ALLIED VIEWS AS TO HOW THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD RESPOND. HE ADDED THAT THE INCLINATION OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE WAS TO SEND FORWARD BRIEF RESPONSES CONFIRMING THE EXISTENCE OF SOVIET PROTESTS ON BOTH SUBJECTS.

3. ALTHOUGH NO ALLIED REPS EXPRESSED MUCH ENTHUSIASM FOR THE FRG CONFIRMING EXISTENCE OF CONFIDENTIAL ALLIED-SOVIET DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES, ALL REPS REALIZED THAT AS A RESULT OF RECENT PRESS LEAKS, REF A, BOTH PROTESTS ARE TO SOME DEGREE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. IN ADDITION, THEY RECOGNIZED INHERENT PRESSURE ON FOREIGN OFFICE TO PROVIDE SOMETHING MORE THAN A "CANNOT COMMENT" RESPONSE TO BUNDESTAG QUESTIONS.

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
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4. IN FEBRUARY 8 BONN GROUP MEETING, VON ARNIM
DISTRIBUTED COPIES OF THE DRAFT REPLIES TO BE USED
ON FEBRUARY 10.

RE GENSCHER, THE GOVERNMENT WILL ANSWER:

"IT IS CORRECT THAT THE SOVIET UNION MADE
REPRESENTATIONS (VORSTELLIG WERDEN) TO THE
THREE POWERS CONCERNING THE FACT THAT THE
FEDERAL FOREIGN MINISTER ACCOMPANIED THE
AMERICAN VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND FRENCH
FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD DURING THEIR
SHORT VISITS TO BERLIN."

RE BUBACK, THE GOVERNMENT WILL ANSWER:

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"IT IS ALSO CORRECT THAT THE SOVIET UNION
MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE THREE POWERS IN
CONNECTION WITH THE INVESTIGATIONS WHICH
THE FEDERAL PROSECUTOR IS CARRYING OUT
AGAINST THE INDIVIDUALS ACCUSED OF PARTICIPA-
TING IN THE KIDNAPPING OF BERLIN HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES PRESIDENT PETER LORENZ."

THE REMAINDER OF THE ANSWER AND THE FOLLOW-UP ANSWERS
ARE ESSENTIALLY NON-COMMITTAL NOTING THAT FRG IS
NON-SIGNATORY OF QA, RESTRICTIVE SOVIET INTERPRETATION
OF QA NOTHING NEW, AND FRG CANNOT COMMENT ON DETAILS
OF CONFIDENTIAL DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES.

5. WE ASSUME THAT IT IS PROBABLE THAT ALLIED
EMBASSIES HERE AND MISSIONS IN BERLIN WILL
NOW RECEIVE RENEWED PRESS INQUIRIES ON BOTH TOPICS.
IF SO, WE PROPOSE TO CONFIRM AS BRIEFLY AS POSSIBLE

THE EXISTENCE OF BOTH PROTESTS BUT TO REFUSE TO
PROVIDE DETAILS.
STOESSEL

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